

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 05431 230942Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03  
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03  
SP-02 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 PA-01  
/087 W

-----027302 230955Z /13

P 230811Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1858

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN KS US  
SUBJ: HOUSE ACTION ON PL 480 BILL: PRESS COVERAGE

1. "NO MORE NEGOTIATIONS" IS PRESS CAPTION TO ROKG REACTION CONCERNING HOUSE ACTION ON PL-480. "HIGH MOFA OFFICIAL" IS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS: "AN END HAS BEEN PUT BY THE US SIDE ITSELF TO THE ISSUE OF THE TESTIMONY OF A FORMER DIPLOMAT, AS A RESULT OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION OPENLY THREATENING OUR GOVERNMENT IN DEFIANCE OF OUR EFFORTS TO OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL LAW AND MAINTAIN OUR INTEGRITY AS A SOVEREIGN STATE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EVEN IF THE US CONGRESS SHOULD PROPOSE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS, WE HAVE NO INTENTION TO COMPLY WITH SUCH A PROPOSAL. THE US ACTION HAS NOW BLOCKED OFF EVEN THE LIMITED COOPERATION WE WERE PREPARED TO GIVE." PRESS SAYS ROKG IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT "ANY FURTHER ACTIONS" BY US WITHOUT CHANGING ITS POSITION. MOFA OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY SAID US/ROK RELATIONS SHOULD NOT BE CONCERNED WITH PAST MATTERS ANY LONGER, BUT FROM NOW ON BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND FORWARD-LOOKING DIRECTION. MOFA OFFICIAL EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT IF US AND ROK WORK IN THAT DIRECTION, THE RELATIONSHIP CAN BE IMPROVED.

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2. RADIO ITEM REPORTS "IT HAS BEEN LEARNED" THAT ROKG IS NOW PLANNING CASH PURCHASES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES FROM CANADA.

3. COVERAGE QUOTES REP. WRIGHT, "I FEEL SORRY FOR INTRODUCING THIS AMENDMENT, BUT I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE, SINCE THE INTEGRITY OF CONGRESS IS AT STAKE. THIS

IS BY NO MEANS INTENDED TO CUT OFF FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH KOREA AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS ENCOURAGING NORTH KOREAN MILITARY ADVENTURPV". RESPONDING TO QUESTION ON FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL ACTION IF RESOLUTION DOES NOT INFLUENCE ROKG, WRIGHT IS QUOTED, "SPEAKER O'NEILL, MINORITY LEADER RHODES AND MYSELF UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL INTRODUCE A BILL TO REDUCE US MILITARY AID TO KOREA." TONGA ILBO WASH CORRESPONDENT, IN COMMENTARY, VOICES CONCERN THAT FURTHER MEANS OF PRESSURE MAY BE FORTHCOMING FROM CONGRESS, SUCH AS SUSPENSION OF LOANS. THIS CORRESPONDENT ALSO MENTIONS POSSIBILITY THAT ACTION ON MILITARY TRANSFER PACKAGE, DELAYED SINCE EARLY MAY, MAY CONTINUE TO BE DELAYED. COMMENTARIES OPINE ROK/US RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE TENSE "FOR SOME TIME".

4. PRESS NOTES DOS EXPRESSED REGRET THAT HOUSE TOOK ACTION FOR REASONS NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE BILL ITSELF. STERN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PL 480, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
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**Draft Date:** 23 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, EAGR, KS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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